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What Jackie Wanted — 'JFK' Rocket, Privacy

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A week after President Kennedy's assassination, Jacqueline Kennedy charted a future that she hoped would include privacy for herself and a rocket named after her husband.

"I'm not going to be the Widow Kennedy," she told journalist Theodore White in comments released for the first time yesterday. "When this is over, I'm going to crawl into the deepest retirement there is."

Excerpts of the Nov. 29, 1963, interview had been published previously in Life magazine and White's 1978 memoir, "In Search of History." Yesterday, the John F. Kennedy Library released the full 34 pages, including White's handwritten notes and revisions in Mrs. Kennedy's handwriting.

White had donated the papers to the library in 1969 but said they could not be released until one year after the former first lady's death. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died of cancer May 19, 1994, at age 64. White died in 1986.

Speaking of her 3-year-old son, Mrs. Kennedy said: "I want John-John to be a fine young man. He's so interested in planes; maybe he'll be an astronaut or just plain John Kennedy fixing planes on the ground."

She also recalled that her daughter, Caroline, "held my hand like a soldier. She's my helper; she's mine now."

Mrs. Kennedy also said she wanted several things to memorialize her husband.

"I wanted that flame and I wanted Cape Kennedy. ... All I wanted was his name on just that one booster, the one that would put us ahead of the Russians," she said, apparently referring to the rocket to the moon.

John Kennedy Jr. is now a lawyer and publisher. Caroline is also a lawyer and co-wrote a book on the Bill of Rights; she is married and has three children.

The eternal flame still burns at JFK's grave at Arlington National Cemetery.

Cape Kennedy reverted to Cape Canaveral in 1973, although the NASA base there continues to be called the Kennedy Space Center.